

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-11-01

April 9, 2001

The following is offered in response to your FAX Memos to me dated March 7, 2001 and March 20, 2001, in which you seek a Formal Interpretation of the provisions of Article 680 D. of the 1999 National Electrical Code portion of the 1999 State Building Code.

Question: "Article 680-40. Outdoor Installations." Refers the code user back to Parts A and B of Article 680. In Part A, section 680-12 requires a disconnect within sight and at least 5 feet from the inside wall of the spa. When this disconnect is installed, do the requirements of Part B, section 680-25(d) regarding panelboards and wiring methods apply?

Answer: Yes, assuming the spa or hot tub is not a listed packaged unit utilizing a factory-installed remote panelboard, as allowed in exception (a) to section 680-40. Spas and hot tubs other than those covered by exception (a) must be supplied with a disconnecting means within sight of the unit and at least 5 feet from the inside walls. Since section 680-25 (d) covers panelboards and disconnecting means that are not part of the service equipment or source of a separately derived system, it too would apply to the wiring of the required disconnect, assuming that the disconnecting means for the spa or hot tub is not the service equipment and not part of a separately derived system, and assuming that the spa or hot tub in question includes electrically powered lighting and/or heat in addition to the motor. If the spa or hot tub in question has only a motor and is located in a single-family dwelling, section 680-25 (c) wiring methods would apply.